



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE MEDIA RELATIONS DIVISION

JACKIE LACEY • District Attorney
SHARON J. MATSUMOTO • Chief Deputy District Attorney

JEAN GUCCIONE • Director

CONTACT:

Shiara Davila-Morales, Chief
Media Relations Division
213-974-3525

Oct. 28, 2013

Man Charged with Rape in El Monte Convenience Store Attack

An 18-year-old man accused of raping a clerk at an El Monte convenience store is scheduled to be arraigned this afternoon on multiple felony charges, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Joseph Leo Amaya (dob 1/1/95) is charged in case KA103513 with two counts of forcible rape and three counts of sexual penetration by a foreign object. Amaya is due to appear in Department R of Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

The complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant kidnapped the victim to commit the offenses charged. The case was filed for warrant Oct. 23.

The 19-year-old victim was working the night shift at a mini mart when Amaya allegedly approached the girl. The defendant left the premise but allegedly returned while the victim was getting ready to close the store.

As the defendant exited the store once again, the victim attempted to lock the doors but Amaya allegedly forced his way back in. Once inside the store, the defendant purportedly barricaded the store entrance doors, dragged the victim to the back of the store and repeatedly sexually assaulted the girl, prosecutors said.

The case remains under investigation by the El Monte Police Department. Deputy District Attorney Cynthia Valenzuela is assigned to prosecute the case.

Prosecutors have recommended that Amaya's bail be set at \$5 million. If convicted as charged, the defendant faces a maximum sentence of 125 years to life in state prison.

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About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Annually, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecutes more than 60,000 felonies and 140,000 misdemeanor crimes.

18-1112 Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center
210 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-3525